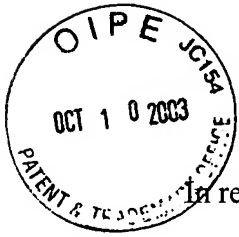


PATENT APPLICATION



~~In re~~ Application of:

Examiner: Unassigned

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

October 10, 2003

October 10, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
Post Office Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the above-identified application, as follows.